



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |   |           |                   |
|-------------|---|-----------|-------------------|
| Applicant:  | Austin, Michael Stephen                     | Examiner: | Jessica R. Baxter |
| Serial No.: | 09/556,671                                  | Art Unit: | 3731              |
| Filed:      | April 24, 2000                              | Docket:   | 99-0138           |
| Title:      | ANATOMICALLY CORRECT ENDOLUMINAL PROSTHESES |           |                   |

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(c)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Acknowledging the continuing duty to disclose information which may be material to patentability under 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant respectfully submits the attached PTO Form-1449 and cited references under 37 CFR § 1.97(c). Applicant submits that this IDS is not an admission that any of the references qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 nor that any of the references taken alone or in combination render the pending claims unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, and before the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311. No fee is due as this statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

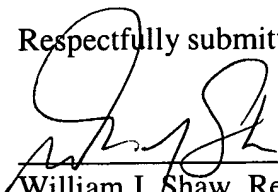
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Permission is hereby granted to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 02-3243 for any fee error calculations.

Date: February 18, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

  
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William J. Shaw, Reg. No. 43,111  
Scimed Life Systems, Inc.  
One Boston Scientific Place, M.S. C15  
Natick, MA 01760-1537  
Telephone: (508) 650-8384

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

February 18, 2003

Date of Deposit

Name: Kathleen E. Cronin

Signature: 